2. Projects for soil, water and tree conservation in the Himalayas (Operation Soilwatch) and other afforestation programmes in operation.

3. Guidelines issued to the State Governments:

(i) to avoid clearfelling of natural forests and where such fellings are inevitable for restoration of crop or other silvicultural considerations, it should be restricted to areas not exceeding 10 hectares in the hills and 25 hectares in the plains.

(ii) to consider banning of feelings in the hills above 1000 metres at least for some years.

(iii) to identify critical areas in the hills and mountains which require protection from felling of forests and need immediate vigorous afforestation.

(iv) to set apart 4 per cent of the geographical area as protection areas like wildlife sanctuaries, national parks biosphere reserves etc.

4. Development of infrastructure and enforcement of legal provisions for the protection of forests.

5. Enactment of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 to check diversion of forest land to non-forest purposes.

6. Development of alternative sources of energy to replace fuelwood in domestic and commercial sectors.

7. Substitution of wood by alternative materials in packaging railway sleepers and building construction.

8. Liberalised import policy for forest products.

9. Fiscal incentives to industry which lead to wood substitution.

10. Use of preservative treatment stressed to prolong timber life, leading to reduction in demand.

11. Control of shifting cultivation.

Poisonous element found in Ganga Water

2159. SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news report which appeared in the Hindustan Times of 19th December, 1987 to the effect that scientists have found high content of poisonous element 'lead' in Ganga water at Mirzapur, Varanasi and Ghazipur; and

(b) if so, what are its effects on human being and cattle population; what was the level of contamination at these places before the Ganga Action Plan began and what would be the estimated level of lead contamination after two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) Yes, Sir. The news report appearing in the Hindustan Times on 19th December 1987 refers to presence of lead in the sediments of Ganga and not in the Ganga water. Of the various research studies taken up in the context of the Ganga Action Plan, one study on the role of sediments in attenuation of trace metals by a Professor of Banaras Hindu University relates to the content of lead found in the sediments of the Ganga. The reports received from the study indicate the presence of lead in samples of sediments taken at Mirzapur, Varanasi and Ghazipur. However, in the absence of any established standard for lead content in sediments, it is not possible to say whether the content found in the samples as reported in the study is high or otherwise.

(b) In view of the toxic effects of lead in water, the Industrial Toxicology Research Centre, Lucknow has been conducting systematic monitoring of concentration of heavy metals including lead in the Ganga water since July, 1986. Data available indicates that in all the locations covered by the study, lead content in the

Ganga water is either close to or well below the permissible limits.

No data is available on the concentration of lead in sediments before the commencement of Ganga Action Plan. It is not possible to make any prediction about the levels of lead concentration two years from now.

सूती वस्त्रों का निर्यात

2160. **श्री अशोक नाथ वर्मा :** क्या वस्त्र मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) पिछले तीन वर्षों के दौरान राज्य व्यापार निगम ने किस-किस देश को सूती वस्त्रों का कितनी-कितनी मात्रा में निर्यात किया है ;

(ख) प्रत्येक देश से कितनी विदेशी मुद्रा कमाई ;

(ग) पिछले तीन वर्षों के दौरान हस्तशिल्प और हथकरघा निर्यात निगम ने किस-किस देश को हथकरघा वस्त्र आदि की कितनी-कितनी मात्रा का निर्यात किया और इससे कितनी विदेशी मुद्रा कमाई ; और

(घ) ऐसे निर्यात के लिये सरकार ने राज्य व्यापार निगम और हस्तशिल्प और हथकरघा निर्यात निगम को कितनी-कितनी धनराशि आवंटित की और उसका आधार क्या था ?

वस्त्र मंत्री (श्री राम निवास मिर्धा): (क) से (ग) वर्ष 1985 तथा 1986 के दौरान राज्य व्यापार निगम तथा हस्तशिल्प और हथकरघा निर्यात निगम द्वारा कोटा देशों को किये गये निर्यात का एक विवरण संलग्न है । (नीचे देखिये)

(घ) परिधानों के लिये वर्तमान लम्बी अवधि की अधिकृत वितरण नीति में 2 प्रतिशत प्रति वर्ष के बराबर ऐसे केन्द्रीय/राज्य निगमों तथा ऐपेक्स संस्थाओं को आवंटन के लिये आरक्षित है, जिनकी अपनी निर्माण सुविधाएं हैं ।

विवरण

निर्यात निष्पादन

(मात्रा टुकड़ों में)
(कीमत रु० में)

देश	1985		1986	
	मात्रा	मूल्य	मात्रा	मूल्य
1	2	3	4	5
भारतीय राज्य व्यापार निगम				
बेनीलक्स . . .	15900	191000	—	—
कनाडा . . .	7250	389705	9700	501000
फ्रांस . . .	49264	640000	84388	1171300
इटली . . .	1260	131000	—	—
यू०के० . . .	193270	8237421	23512	637792
डब्यू०जी० . . .	78020	1029000	74913	1610335
स्वीडन . . .	15458	691088	19396	656000
यू०एस०ए० . . .	219400	18426895	200679	10902719